

# City of Lawrence Outside Agency Annual Report For Calendar Year 2017

Reports on activity should be submitted electronically to Danielle Buschkoetter, at [dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org](mailto:dbuschkoetter@lawrenceks.org) by Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 5:00pm. For the following questions please refer back to your [2017 application for funding](#).

**Reporting Period:** Calendar Year 2017

**Agency Name:** The Sexual Trauma and Abuse Care Center

1. Refer to the program in which your agency received funding; provide a participant success story that helps demonstrate the accomplishments of the program.

The Sexual Trauma and Abuse Care Center has yet again seen another year of incredible growth and support to survivors of sexual violence. In 2017, The Care Center saw 632 unduplicated individuals (2016: 430 total clients) who had been affected by sexual violence. 1,269 hotline calls were answered and 65 individuals received advocacy services at Lawrence Memorial Hospital during a Sexual Assault Forensic Examination.

City of Lawrence funds have supported the quality and quantity of advocacy services that The Care Center provides. The agency is excited to continue to develop and offer this new level of services in the coming years.

Additionally- due to the confidentiality of our clients, The Care Center does not allow funders client stories to use at their discretion. The agency rarely uses individual stories and is very careful about when and how survivors' stories are used in awareness and fundraising efforts.

2. Refer to your 2017 application for funding; provide a brief narrative of the activities funded with City funds.

The agency's Advocacy and Response program is the agency's longest standing service and a critical component to Lawrence's Coordinated Sexual Assault Response. The Care Center's highly trained advocacy staff and volunteers work with the Lawrence Police Department, Douglas County District Attorney's office, University of Kansas, Haskell Indian Nations University and Lawrence Memorial Hospital to ensure that when victims enter the system they are provided the highest care and support during the process. The advocates role is two-fold: 1. to provide victim-centered care and information at a critically important time and 2. support the system response to promote a coordinated response that is sensitive to the victim and the related trauma.

3. Refer to your 2017 application for funding; provide specific detail (use supportive documents, if needed) to demonstrate what progress was made toward your proposed outcomes.

## **Objective 1: Provide crisis response and support to 200 primary and secondary victim-survivors seeking services.**

In 2017, The Care Center served 396 total identified\* Douglas County Residents. 179 clients accessed the agency's advocacy program for crisis response and support. 376.8 hours of support were provided day or night to clients. The Care Center's 24/7 advocacy program provided emergency services such as hospital advocacy, emergency housing and safety measures, safety planning, and emotional crisis counseling.

\*Demographic information is provided by client self disclosure

**Objective 2: Provide advocacy to 100 primary and secondary survivors seeking agency services throughout the criminal justice process.**

The Care Center provided criminal justice advocacy to 105 Douglas County residents in 2017, totaling 132 hours of direct services. Criminal justice advocacy includes supporting survivors through the law enforcement investigation and throughout the court process. This includes assessing the victim's needs and subsequently providing appropriate referrals and information as necessary, assisting with filling out/filing/gathering paperwork necessary for legal proceedings, court accompaniment, and assistance in obtaining legal representation. Sexual violence investigations are often traumatic, confusing and can sometimes take years to complete from start to finish. Advocates answer questions, support families and provide critical care during an emotional process.

**Objective 3: Recruit and train 10-15 new volunteer advocates who will provide direct service and 24/7 support hotline coverage and provide continued education and support to 10-20 current volunteer advocates.**

The Care Center had two volunteer training sessions in 2017. 17 volunteers completed the agency's 40 hour volunteer training and donated their personal time to the agency's after hours crisis line. Training covers a variety of topics that include both specialized information regarding different populations as well as important advocacy skills like supportive listening and accurate information and referrals for survivors. Volunteer advocates are the first line of support for callers after hours and on weekends. Volunteer Advocates answer questions regarding sexual trauma and abuse, provide supportive listening and connect callers to staff advocates. Additionally, volunteers respond to after-hours hospital calls within 30 minutes at Lawrence Memorial Hospital as well as provide information and support to primary and secondary survivors through the sexual assault forensic exam process.

4. Refer to the line-item budget provided in your 2017 application for funding; is this accurate to how your allocation was actually spent? If no, what changed and why?

Expenditures for the project were on track with budget projections. There were no significant changes to the original budget.